

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They feel that they can violate federal election laws and get away with it because they're a big corporation and the present administration backs big corporations to the max. This shows why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. If they insist on airing this smear piece about Kerry, they should have their license revoked. Thank you.